

VZCZCXRO1551
RR RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHDBU RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHLH RUEHNEH RUEHNP
RUEHPW RUEHROV RUEHSR
DE RUEHTA #0957 1561115
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 051115Z JUN 09
FM AMEMBASSY ASTANA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5547
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE 1636
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 2647
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASTANA 000957

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/06/2059

TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [RSZ](#) [TI](#) [TX](#) [UZ](#) [KG](#) [KZ](#)

SUBJECT: KAZAKHSTAN: DEMARCHE DELIVERED ON LETHAL TRANSIT
NEGOTIATIONS WITH RUSSIA

REF: SECSTATE 54767

Classified By: Ambassador Richard E. Hoagland, 1.4 (b), (d)

11. (C) Ambassador delivered reftel demarche on June 5 to
Presidential Foreign Policy Advisor Kairat Sarybai.

12. (C) The Ambassador explained that the initiative for the
possible transit of lethal materiel across Russian territory
came from President Medvedev, and he told Sarybai that he
wanted to brief him on the matter in the spirit of
transparency and openness.

13. (C) Sarybai said he would "brief my boss" (President
Nazarbayev) on the issue and told the Ambassador, "I
appreciate your attitude of greater transparency with us in
your relationship with Russia." Sarybai said he understood
how this issue was relevant to Kazakhstan and reminded the
Ambassador of the words from President Nazarbayev to Vice
President Biden, "All of the issues on your international
agenda are somehow connected to Kazakhstan."

14. (C) COMMENT: Sarybai was very well informed about the
issue and was aware of existing transit agreements with
Germany, France, and Spain. He was slightly surprised by the
fact that the United States was now discussing with Russia
the possibility of allowing transit of lethal materiel
destined for military operations in Afghanistan across
Russian territory. He raised an eyebrow, said, "Well, that's
new," and then moved quickly on to other issues on the
agenda. END COMMENT.
HOAGLAND